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THE BRYOLOGIST

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THE PHILADELPHIA MEETING OF THE SULLIVANT MOSS SOCIETY

According to the announcement in the November issue of *THE BRYOLOGIST*, the Sullivant Moss Society held its eleventh public meeting in the Botanical Hall of the University of Pennsylvania on December 30, 1914, during Convocation Week of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Over forty members and visitors were present at the two sessions.

The forenoon session was wholly informal, giving those present a chance to examine the various exhibits that had been prepared by members of the society. Mr. G. B. Kaiser had a large representation of specimens from his own herbarium and from that of the society, and Dr. H. E. Hasse sent a suite of West-Coast lichens. These were arranged upon tables around the sides of the room, so as to facilitate leisurely observation and comparison. The Worcester Moss Club sent a number of mounted specimens of species collected by the members, especially Mrs. Ella L. Horr and Mrs. Frank C. Smith, Jr., and a beautiful series of photographs of mosses and hepatics made by Miss Helen E. Greenwood. Mrs. Annie Morrill Smith sent her collection of photographs of bryologists and lichenologists, and a number of the original drawings and proofs for *THE BRYOLOGIST*. Mrs. Elizabeth G. Britton had on exhibition large drawings of Bermudian mosses to illustrate her paper for the afternoon session. There was, also, a very interesting herbarium case, once the property of William S. Sullivant, which was presented to the Society some years ago through the generosity of Dr. W. G. Farlow. This case was used by Sullivant to contain mounted specimens and is in the form of an oblong box, with a sliding back and double sides, all covered with soft, brown leather. Inside there are some of the original green genus covers, and the soft, white sheets between which the specimens were laid. These still bear the species names in Sullivant's handwriting. Miss Annie Lorenz had with her for exhibition a book of drawings, illustrating all the species of New England hepatics, and Mr. S. L. Schumo had a collection of microscopic slides showing various features of plant life, which he personally displayed and explained.

Dr. Alexander W. Evans presided at the afternoon session, which was taken up with the formal program. The first paper was by Mrs. Elizabeth G. Britton on the Mosses of Bermuda. Mrs. Britton gave a short account of the physical features of the island, deploring the rapid inroads that market gardening is making upon botanically productive localities, and outlined the recent explorations made by members of the New York Botanic Garden. The Challenger Expedition recorded eight species of mosses from Bermuda; at present the total is twenty-six species in twenty genera. Of these, *Trichostomum bermudianum* and *Campylopus bermudianus* are endemic, eight are cosmopolitan, six

North American, and ten tropical or subtropical in their relations. The paper will be published in the Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club. Dr. Alexander W. Evans next read a paper upon the Mexican Species of *Plagiochasma*, illustrating the main features of different sections of the genus by blackboard sketches and outlining the distribution of the species. One of these reaches Texas, the majority being Mexican or West Indian. The paper will appear in the Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club, under a slightly altered title.

Mr. E. B. Chamberlain then read a paper prepared by Prof. John M. Holzing, giving extracts from a letter recently received from M. Jules Cardot, the eminent French bryologist, also a paper by Miss Caroline C. Haynes upon the hepatics collected in Florida by Mr. Severin Rapp. Both of these papers will appear in *THE BRYOLOGIST*. The illustrated talk upon Collecting near the Continental Divide, which had been promised by Dr. A. J. Grout, had to be omitted owing to the author being taken ill at the last moment. Mr. G. B. Kaiser gave an informal talk upon the mosses and hepatics that occur in the immediate vicinity of Philadelphia with especial reference to their distribution and abundance, following which Miss Annie Lorenz read an article enumerating the species of hepatics which are to be expected in New England, in addition to the many already known from that region. Miss Lorenz indicated the distribution as at present known, and the soil preference for each species, and showed why it was to be expected within the New England region. This paper also will appear in an early issue of *THE BRYOLOGIST*. Dr. Otto E. Jennings then exhibited a fine series of lantern slides showing the vegetation and ecological conditions in the vicinity of Pittsburgh, Pa., explaining in detail the influence that these factors have upon the moss-flora and upon the abundance or rarity of species. It is to be hoped that Dr. Jennings will some day prepare a paper for *THE BRYOLOGIST* upon the same topic. The last paper of the program, "Notes upon the Primitive Uses of Lichens," by Mr. G. K. Merrill, was read by Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Merrill mentioned the uses of lichens as food, as illustrated by the Laplanders, the "manna" of Arabia and Northern Africa, and the "rock tripe" at times resorted to by Arctic travelers. He also mentioned the curious uses of lichens in the early pharmacopoeias and the valuable dyes that were formerly obtained from certain species, a use which still survives in the case of litmus. This paper is published in the Bulletin of the Josselyn Botanical Society of Maine, Number 5.

At the close of the formal session, those present were the guests of the Philadelphia Botanical Society at a tea in the Library of the Botanical Building, where a jolly hour was spent.

On Thursday morning, December 31, nine members gathered for a walk through a part of the Wissahickon Valley in Germantown. In spite of cool air and slippery paths, a most enjoyable time was experienced, and many interesting species noted.

In connection with the meeting especial thanks are due to Mr. G. B. Kaiser for his labor in making the surroundings so pleasant and in attending to the multitude of details. The Secretary feels this the more keenly, since it was from

his own shoulders that the burden was lifted. All present also feel that they are greatly indebted to the ladies of the Botanical Society, who, through their kind and thoughtful attention, did so much to make visiting members feel thoroughly at home. The Botanical Department of the University has also placed the Society under great obligations for the courteous loan of the lantern and operator, as well as for the use of rooms in the Botanical Hall.

EDWARD B. CHAMBERLAIN, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK CITY.

HEPATICAE COLLECTED IN FLORIDA BY SEVERIN RAPP

[MISS CAROLINE C. HAYNES]

The following list comprises sixty-four species of Hepaticae collected by Mr. Severin Rapp during the years 1903-14. Determinations were made by Dr. A. W. Evans and Herr Stephani. The richness of the Southern field is admirably demonstrated by the fact that all the specimens yielding these species came from one locality, Sanford, Orange Co., or its vicinity. Mr. Rapp is a good collector, his is the keen eye to detect the most minute of species; and while there are many rarities and several recently described species, the collection contains additional material as yet undescribed.

The numbers correspond with those of a set deposited in the Herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden. The list was arranged by Caroline Coventry Haynes, who thinks it not out of place to add a plea that botanists while in Florida collect hepatics, even though out for bigger game.

Ricciaceae

Riccia Donnellii Aust. (No. 9). On sand in ditches.

Ricciella crystallina (L.) Warnst. (No. 6). On sidewalks between bricks.

Ricciella fluitans (L.) A. Br. (No. 4). In water and ditches.

Ricciocarpus natans (L.) Corda (No. 8). Side of ditch.

Marchantiaceae

Marchantia polymorpha L. (No. 7). On ground and on bricks. New to Florida.

Metzgeriaceae

Thallocarpus Curtisii (Aust.) Lindb. (No. 12). On rich soil in ditches.

Sphaerocarpos Donnellii Aust. (No. 17). On sand in fields. For description and figures see C. C. Haynes, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club. 37: 226. Pl. 29, 30. 1910.

Sphaerocarpos texanus Aust. (No. 21). On walks mixed with *Ricciella crystallina*. For description and figures see C. C. Haynes, loc. cit. 222. Pl. 26, 27. 1910.

Riccardia multifida (L.) S. F. Gray (No. 26). On logs in wet places.